

Kuskokwim Area Subsistence Fishing

The Kuskokwim Area includes all waters of Alaska between the latitude of the westernmost point of the Naskonat Peninsula and the latitude of the southernmost tip of Cape Newenham, including the waters of Alaska surrounding Nunivak and St. Matthew Islands and those waters draining into the Bering Sea. These regulations apply on waters within or adjacent to the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge, Togiak National Wildlife Refuge, Lake Clark National Park and Preserve, and Denali National Park and Preserve. General domain lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management are open to fishing only on non-navigable waters. [See map 6 on previous page.]

FEDERAL DELEGATED OFFICIAL



Kuskokwim Area

Refuge Manager

Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge

See Directory at the back of this book
for contact information.

| Species / Customary and Traditional Use Determinations | Harvest Limits | Open Season |
|--|----------------|---|
| Salmon | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residents of the Kuskokwim Area, except those persons residing on the United States military installation located on Cape Newenham, Sparrevohn USAFB, and Tatalina USAFB. | No limit | <p>As scheduled</p> <p>For the Kuskokwim Area, Federal subsistence fishing schedules, openings, closings and fishing methods are the same as those issued for subsistence taking of fish under Alaska Statute (AS 16.05.060) unless superseded by Federal Special Action. See also the Federal Kuskokwim Area regulations for time restrictions before, during, and after open State commercial salmon fishing.</p> |
| Rainbow Trout | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residents of the communities of Akiachak, Akiak, Aniak, Atmautluak, Bethel, Chuathbaluk, Crooked Creek, Eek, Goodnews Bay, Kasigluk, Kwethluk, Lower Kalskag, Napakiak, Napaskiak, Nunapitchuk, Oscarville, Platinum, Quinhagak, Tuluksak, Tuntutuliak, and Upper Kalskag. | No limit | <p>Year round.</p> <p>From March 15–June 15 you may not use gillnets, dip nets, and fyke nets to target this species. Rainbow trout taken incidentally in other subsistence net fisheries or through the ice may be retained.</p> |
| Pacific Cod | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residents of the communities of Cheforak, Chevak, Eek, Kipnuk, Kongiganak, Kwigillingok, Mekoryuk, Newtok, Nightmute, Tununak, Toksook Bay and Tuntutuliak. | No limit | Year round |
| Herring and Herring Roe | | |
| <p>Waters around Nunivak Island—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residents within 20 miles of the coast between the westernmost tip of the Naskonat Peninsula and the terminus of the Ishowik River and on Nunivak Island. | No limit | Year round |

| Species / Customary and Traditional Use Determinations | Harvest Limits | Open Season |
|---|----------------|-------------|
| All other fish | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residents of the Kuskokwim Area, except those persons residing on the United States military installation located on Cape Newenham, Sparrevohn USAFB, and Tatalina USAFB. | No limit | Year round |

Special Provisions

NO SUBSISTENCE FISHING PERMIT REQUIRED. You may take fish at any time without a subsistence fishing permit, unless specified by emergency action.

Regulations

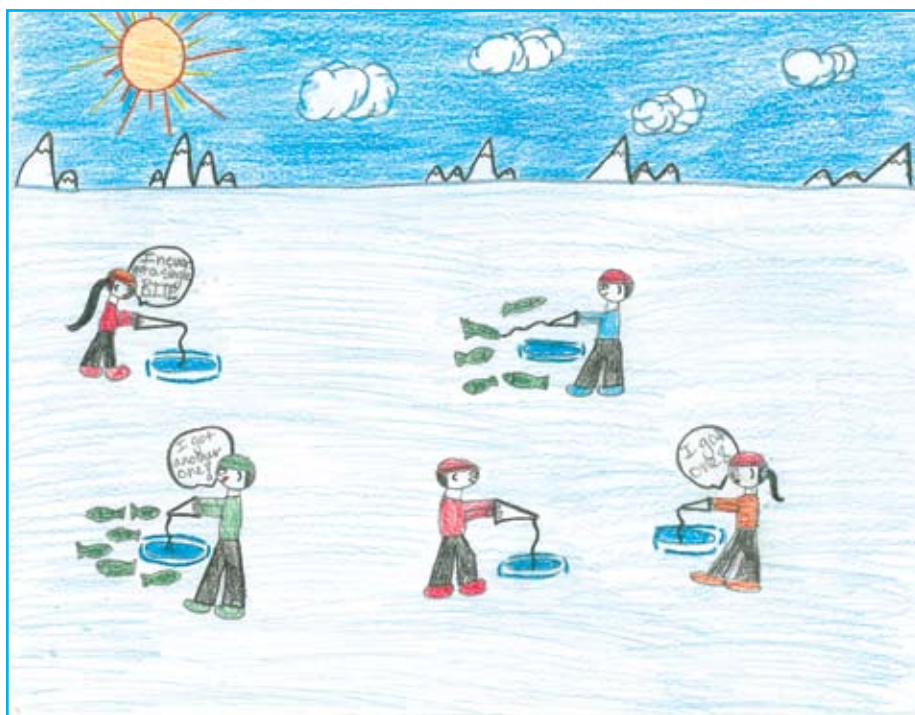
You may take salmon only by gillnet, beach seine, fish wheel, or rod and reel, subject to the restrictions in these regulations. You may also take salmon by spear in the Kanektok and Arolik River drainages, and in the drainages of Goodnews Bay. You may take fish species other than salmon by gillnet, beach seine, fish wheel, pot, long line, fyke net, dip net, jigging gear, spear, lead, handline, or rod and reel.

Rainbow trout may be taken only by gillnets, dip nets, fyke nets, rod and reel, handline, spear, or jigging through the ice.

You may use kegs or buoys of any color on any permitted gear.

Gillnet Restrictions

- The maximum depth of gillnets is:
 - 6 inch or smaller stretched-mesh = not more than 45 meshes in depth
 - Over 6 inch stretched-mesh = not more than 35 meshes in depth
- When subsistence fishing for salmon, you may not use an aggregate length of set or drift gillnets in excess of 50 fathoms.
- In the **Kuskokwim River tributaries**, you must attach each subsistence gillnet to the bank. Your net should be substantially perpendicular to the bank and in a straight line.
- Within tributaries of the Kuskokwim River drainage from the north end of Eek Island upstream to the mouth of the Kolmakoff River, you may not set or operate any part of a set gillnet within 150 feet of any part of another set gillnet.



*Desiree Strickland, 12, Kotzebue
Kotzebue Middle High School
2006 Art Contest Entry*

- In **Whitefish Lake in the Ophir Creek drainage**, you may not use subsistence set and drift gillnets exceeding 15 fathoms in length. You may not operate more than one subsistence set or drift gillnet at a time. You must check the net at least once every 24 hours.

Fishing Periods

The relaxation of fishing schedules/windows by the Federal in-season manager is based on the in-season run strength and is independent of the State's decision to implement or announce a commercial fishery.

You may not take salmon for subsistence 16 hours before, during, and 6 hours after each State commercial salmon fishing period in these areas:

- In **District 2** and anywhere in tributaries that flow into the Kuskokwim River within that district, from June 1–September 8, you may not take salmon by net gear or fish wheel for 16 hours before, during, and 6 hours after each open State commercial salmon fishing period in the district. You may subsistence fish for salmon with rod and reel 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, unless rod and reel are specifically restricted elsewhere in this section.
- **Districts 4 and 5** from June 1–September 8.

In **District 1, Kuskokuak Slough**, from June 1–July 31 you may not take salmon for subsistence 16 hours before and during each State commercial salmon fishing period in the district.

In these locations, you may not take subsistence fish by nets for 16 hours before, during, and 6 hours after each open State commercial salmon fishing period:

- **Goodnews River** east of a line between ADF&G regulatory markers placed near the mouth of the Ufigag River, and an ADF&G regulatory marker placed near the mouth of the Tunulik River.
- **Kanektok River** upstream of ADF&G regulatory markers placed near the mouth.
- **Arolik River** upstream of ADF&G regulatory markers placed near the mouth.



*Kayla Mae Nickoli, 15, Kaltag
Kaltag School
2006 Art Contest Entry*